

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Translations of EPON Handbills for May Day
and KOA-KOP Proclamation

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. 25X1X

1. There follows a translation of an EPON handbill concerning May Day which was distributed in Athens.

" P R O C L A M A T I O N

of EPON of Athens to the Working Youth

Youths of labor and toil,

"The workers throughout the world are celebrating May Day today. They are celebrating the day when the slaves of toil united for the first time their indomitable might, and determined to live like human beings, they proclaimed the first organized strike.

"Those who exploited their sweat were maddened and answered with guns, and the blood of the workers stained red the First of May.

"Since then year by year the working class taught by experience is giving dynamic force to the struggle to break the chains of slavery and is gaining its life.

"In the great country of Socialism, the Soviet Union, and in the new People's Democracies the workers are welcoming this year's May Day with new achievements. Freed from the exploitation of the plutocratic oligarchy whom they have definitely crushed they have become lords and masters in their own house, and they are building the kingdom of WORK and of PEACE.

"In our land the workers are greeting May Day in unprecedented conditions of wretchedness and misery, with starvation wages, mass unemployment, and organized terrorism. Here the toiling people are not masters, but the overlords are the few drones and over all of them is the American Gauleiter.

"With American weapons they have drowned in blood the people who demanded a better life; they have shut in prisons and in Makronisos-- the American-type Dachau -- the flower of Greek youth, thousands of labor union leaders and enlightened men who did not want Greece to

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be a colony of foreigners and a feudal estate of the exploiters. They appoint their stool-pigeons like Makris in the labor unions, and they stabilize wages at starvation level. Day before yesterday, the Americans and their lackeys agreed (for the good of the people, they say) not to grant any increase in salaries and wages for three months. And this at a time when all prices are rising, hunger is tormenting the workers, and tuberculosis is grimly reaping the youth of Greece, while the oligarchy continually increases its illegal profits. On the other hand they kid the people that they are working at rebuilding and reconstruction. In actuality they are transforming Greece into a military bridge-head against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, a plaything in the hands of those who are kindling the fire of a new war.

"Today, as during the German-Italian occupation, the life and the health of the people and of the youth are in immediate danger. But just as then the youth of work and toil fought hard at the side of the people and were saved from certain death, so today they will fight and again will win the victory.

"Young working men and women,

"United in brotherhood, regardless of political differences, fight for better wages and better living conditions and better working conditions. Demand a six-hour day for the working students and free education for them. Stop the exploitation of the students and the girls. Work and allowances for the unemployed. Demand militantly the abolition of Makronisos and the granting of a General Amnesty. Expell the appointed (leaders) from your unions.

"Young workers,

"Unmask those who are kindling the fire of a new war. Work militantly for PEACE. Thunder forth that the American Gauleiters must leave our country so that the People may become masters in their own house.

"Long live the worldwide May Day.

"Long live the working class of our country.

Athens, May 1950"

2. The following is a translation of a KOA-KOP proclamation concerning the reconstitution of the Party:

"KKE

"Organizing Committee of KOA-KOP

" P R O C L A M A T I O N

"To the working people of Athens and Piraeus

"Comrades,

"May Day this year finds us under the most barbarous and bloodstained terrorism, under the greatest hunger and misery which the Greek people have experienced since the occupation. It finds us under the most critical international conditions in which imperialism threatens the independence of the small nations and leads mankind to new ruin and destruction.

"On this day millions of workers throughout the world will manifest their will and their faith in the struggle for a better life, for peace, liberty and independence.

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"The appointed labor-brokers in close collaboration with all kinds of so-called labor leaders are preparing to celebrate this day with parades and ballyhoo, and by force and terrorism they will try to drag the workers into fascist parades in order to extoll the monarcho-fascist regime and its crimes, just as Dimitratos did during the period of the 4th of August (regime). The workers, however, are not going to be fooled this time, and are not going to follow the appointed labor-brokers, the deserter leaders abroad and the traitors here and their suspect representatives, because they know very well that at this very moment hundreds and thousands of families have nothing to eat - not even a crust of bread. They know that at this very moment thousands of heroes torn from the bosom of their families are being tortured and killed in the dungeons of the Security Police, on Makronisos, on Gioura, and in the prisons. They know that the independence and integrity of our country are in immediate danger. They know also that nobody was interested in the people, and that their greatest enemy is all those who were mixed in the political life of the country since its liberation up to the present day, and that only the expulsion and disbarment of these from political life of the country will free the people from misery and death, and will save Greece from destruction and foreign enslavement.

"Comrades, Workers, Communists, reformers, progressives, liberals, democrats, sabotage the meetings of the labor-brokers and their May Day parades. Unite and organize your own meetings and demonstrations. Organize your forces and fight. For labor union liberties and against the labor-brokers who sit in your unions through force and are nourished by your sweat. Purge your unions of the labor-brokers and their opportunistic representatives who desert, who pop up like mushrooms and want to go in again at the head of the people only to abandon them at the most critical moment and to run away abroad to save their skins. Resort to work stoppages and strikes and struggle for the adjustment of wages and salaries to the cost of living. Struggle for work and for allowances for the unemployed, for the abolition of Makronisos and the special measures, for general amnesty, for National independence, liberty, Peace, Democracy. Form everywhere committees of the United Democratic Front.

"Comrades, Communists! In the name and in the memory of our heroic comrades who fell in the struggle, let us continue our active effort to purge our party of the dirt and rottenness inherited from the wise and heroic deserter leader and his apprentices.

"Long live the international Workers' May Day!

"Down with monarcho-fascism and its agents!

"The Organizing Committee for the reconstitution of the Communist organizations of Athens - Piraeus."

3. The following are translations of two EPON "triks" found on the streets of Athens. The triks were printed in green ink and apparently made from linoleum blocks.

"Young men and women,

"Take your stand as the vanguard of the United Democratic Front in the fight for bread, Democracy, Independence, and Peace.

EPON"

"The people demand: Abolition of Makronisos, General Amnesty, Peace.

EPON"

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